

**Education and Workforce Development Cabinet**  
**Gov. Beshear proclaims May**  
**Vocational Rehabilitation Job**  
**Placement Month**

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FRANKFORT, Ky. (May 7, 2009) — Gov. Steve Beshear has proclaimed May Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) Job Placement Month to celebrate the efforts of OVR staff in finding employment for people with disabilities.

OVR Job Placement Program Coordinator Robin Ritter said OVR is committed to the successful employment of individuals with disabilities in today's job market. "We have an array of job placement services for individuals so that they can achieve suitable employment and independence," said Ritter. "We also provide employers with qualified applicants and quality services to assist them in their efforts to hire and retain a skilled workforce. Employers tell us that hiring qualified persons with disabilities makes good business sense, and that is why we are celebrating. It is our opportunity to enhance our marketing efforts and show our appreciation for our employers and consumers."

OVR Executive Director Beth Smith said she is pleased that Gov. Beshear once again recognized this service. "Our bottom line is assisting people with disabilities in finding employment. Our relationships with our employers are crucial to our success," Smith said. "This administration clearly understands the importance of our front line staff in strengthening those relationships. I applaud our staff for the work they do."

Job placement is a statewide service of OVR that helps match qualified job seekers with employers. The activities that are planned

for May will recognize and celebrate employer partnerships, placement activities and accomplishments of persons with disabilities in the workforce.

The Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, an agency of the Education and Workforce Development Cabinet, assists Kentuckians with disabilities achieve gainful employment and independence. For more information about services, call the department toll free at 1-800-372-7172 or at 1-888-420-9874 (TDD) or visit the OVR Web site at [www.ovr.ky.gov](http://www.ovr.ky.gov).

The Kentucky Education and Workforce Development Cabinet coordinates learning programs from P-16 and manages and supports training and employment functions in the Department for Workforce Investment. For more information about our programs, visit [www.educationcabinet.ky.gov](http://www.educationcabinet.ky.gov) or [www.workforce.ky.gov](http://www.workforce.ky.gov), or call 502-564-0372.